

## Solid Waste Advisory Committee

September 30, 2008; 4:15PM  
General Services Department  
Combined Operations and Maintenance Facility  
311 North State Street

### Meeting Minutes

The meeting was convened at 4:15 PM in the Conference Room at the General Services Department Combined Operations and Maintenance Facility.

Present: Councilor Keith Nyhan, Chair, Councilor Liz Blanchard, Fred Keach, Councilor Dick Lemieux, Councilor Bill Stetson, Greg Banks, Melanie Doiron, Mike Russell

Guest: Mayor Jim Bouley, Councilor Allen Bennett

Staff: Jim Howard, Chip Chesley, Bob McManus, Vanessa Ghiden

Excused: Councilor Rob Werner, Matt Cashman, Paula Mattis, Jeff Meyers

The meeting was convened at 4:15 PM by Councilor Nyhan.

### **General**

Councilor Nyhan opened the meeting and noted a quorum was present.

Councilor Nyhan advised that he had received correspondence from Matt Cashman indicating that Matt has resigned from the Solid Waste Advisory Committee due to work load and family demands. He also noted that Paula Mattis has advised that she would not be able to make today's meeting since she was traveling out of town. He also noted that he believed Councilor Werner was also out of Town.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes of September 9, 2008**

Councilor Keach moved to approve the minutes as presented; Councilor Lemieux seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes of September 16, 2008**

Greg Banks noted his name was misspelled. Mike Russell noted his name was listed as being both present and excused from the meeting, and that his name should not be included as present since he was not in attendance. Councilor

Stetson noted that a statement should be included that General Services' staff was requested to research their files relative to the last round of request for proposal for solid waste collection regarding potential savings that may be achieved through automated collection. Councilor Keach moved to approve the minutes with these proposed revisions; Councilor Lemieux seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Automated Collection Discussion**

Chip provided two spread sheets from the analysis of the two proposals received by the City, BBI (Bestway) and WMI (Waste Management), in response to the Request for Proposals issued in 2004 for solid waste collection services. The Request for Proposals included an alternative for automated collection. Bob McManus reviewed the spread sheet noting the projected annual savings in the Bestway response was approximately \$ 10,000 and the projected savings in the Waste Management proposal was approximately \$ 140,000. It was noted to implement an automated collection program that it is often customary for the municipality to provide carts to the residents who are going to use the system.

### **Pay As You Throw**

As a follow up to the last meeting, Chip noted that the question poised to the committee at the close of the previous meeting was to have the members contemplate what core solid waste services are appropriate for the City of Concord.

Keith Nyhan noted that staff had developed a decision tree to help focus today's discussion. General Services distributed the attached hand-out. Chip noted the first question the committee should consider is if the City wishes to provide the service or alternatively assure that residents have access to solid waste disposal service through a subscription contract with a private solid waste collection contractor. He reminded the committee of Ted Siegler's previous presentation when he discussed the City of Keene. The City of Keene licenses solid waste collection haulers where residents to subscribe for service and pay the solid waste contractor directly. Chip stated the City assures access to solid waste services through privatization of services and that residents pay their solid waste contractor directly for the service. It was also noted that Ted Siegler thought this approach may not provide the most cost effective service to the resident in that there are more than one company and their truck servicing a street. Alternatively, Chip noted that the City could provide the service and that the service could be provided through contract operations or municipal operation. He noted that the City currently uses contract operations. With the current method of collection, staff believes that this is the most cost effective way to provide the service. Councilor Nyhan asked the committee members their thoughts on this first decision; that is, should the City assure access to solid waste services through private subscription services or should the City provide

solid waste services through municipally supported efforts. The consensus of the committee was to continue to have the City provide services.

Chip then presented the question who should receive solid waste services; residential properties, all or some, and commercial properties, all or some. He noted Concord presently provides solid waste services to all residential properties and the Downtown Solid Waste District. He further reminded committee members that properties within the Downtown Solid Waste District are assessed a fee based upon the property's proportionate share of assessed real estate value. The fees charged to the properties within the Downtown Solid Waste District recover the cost of collection and disposal of solid waste from the District. He also reminded the committee that the City provides fee based solid waste and recycling services to small business. This service was developed in response to several small businesses advising that they could not secure the services of a private hauler when the City requested that they do not place their material at the curb to be collected with the current residential program. Bob McManus described the service is provided through a cart and the City bills the property owner. Several committee members recalled General Services' efforts to remove small businesses from the current residential program and commented favorably towards the effort. Councilor Nyhan then prompted the committee to discuss the question. There was some discussion regarding businesses using a system provided it was a fee based system. When questioned by the chair, the consensus of the committee was to retain solid waste services for the Downtown Solid Waste District and to provide solid waste services to all residential properties.

Chip then presented the committee with the question on what levels of services should be provided to residential properties. He noted that Concord is somewhat unique in that it provides solid waste collection to all multi-family properties, both apartments and condominiums. Multi-family properties are required to provide dumpsters in a location on their property where the City's contractor may service the container. The dumpsters are serviced twice a week. Chip noted that not all multi-family properties elect to use the City's service. Bob McManus noted there were a few properties that do not use the service. The City also provides weekly curbside collection of solid waste and recyclables for residential properties (less than seven units) that do not use a dumpster to collect solid waste. It was noted that the multi-family properties do not receive recycling service. Residents from multi-family properties (eight units and greater) may use the City's transfer station for recycling. The committee then discussed the two levels of service currently being provided by the City to residential properties. The consensus of the committee was to provide solid waste collection and recycling services to all residential properties.

The committee then discussed how to pay for the service. Bob advised the committee that multi-families would be charged based upon the size of their dumpsters. The committee discussed single stream recycling. Some members

thought that single stream recycling should increase recycling rates. It was discussed that single stream would be the better application for multi-family residences. The committee discussed that some communities realize revenues from recycling material they collect. With the current city contracts, the recycling contractor receives the revenues from the recycling materials they collect. It was noted that the recycling revenues the contractors receive is probably included in the cost of their service. The committee asked General Services staff to provide three analyses for the next meeting:

- 1) solid waste collection services for residential properties without recycling
- 2) solid waste collection services with weekly recycling services for residential properties without a user fee system (PAYT)
- 3) solid waste collection services with weekly recycling services for residential properties with a user fee system (PAYT)

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.